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In re Application of DE SMET et al

U.S. Application No.: 10/517,308

PCT Application No.: PCT/BE03/00108

Int. Filing Date: 24 June 2003 : DECISION

Priority Date Claimed: 24 June 2002

Attorney Docket No.: DESM3003/JEK

For: REFRESH PIXEL CIRCUIT FOR ACTIVE

MATRIX

This is in response to applicant's "Non-Fee Petition Under 37 C.F.R. 1.181" filed 21 October 2005.

BACKGROUND

On 24 June 2003, applicant filed international application PCT/BE03/00108, which claimed priority of an earlier United Kingdom application filed 24 June 2002. A copy of the international application was communicated to the USPTO from the International Bureau on 31 December 2003. The thirty-month period for paying the basic national fee in the United States expired on 24 December 2004.

On 17 December 2004, applicant filed national stage papers in the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US). The submission was accompanied by, *inter alia*, the basic national fee required by 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1).

On 14 September 2005, the DO/EO/US mailed a Notification of Acceptance of Application Under 35 U.S.C. 371 (Form PCT/DO/EO/903).

On 21 October 2005, applicant filed the present petition under 37 CFR 1.181.

DISCUSSION

The petition states that the Notification of Acceptance of Application was prematurely mailed since applicant had not yet filed a declaration. A review of the application file reveals that a declaration under PCT Rule 4.17(iv) is present. Therefore, the requirements under 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2), and (c)(4) were met on 17 December 2004. Therefore, correction of the Notification of Acceptance is not indicated at the present time.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons above, the petition under 37 CFR 1.181 is <u>DISMISSED</u> without prejudice.

If reconsideration on the merits of the petition is desired, a proper response must be filed within TWO (2) MONTHS from the mail date of this decision. Extensions of time are available under 37 CFR 1.136(a). Any reconsideration request should include a cover letter entitled "Renewed Petition Under 37 CFR 1.181".

Please direct further correspondence with respect to this matter to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, Office of PCT Legal Administration, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, with the contents of the letter marked to the attention of the Office of PCT Legal Administration.

Bryan Tung

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